

In the opening of this discussion we remarked that there were certain questions which deeply agitated us at home. It is, indeed, a part of that great movement in men's minds which pervades the whole civilized world. Abroad, men are demanding more freedom for themselves. Here we are demanding it for the slave. We have come, and the whole world has come, within a few years, to a new view of this whole subject. But at the present moment the demand here has taken a particular form. A determination has been plainly manifested itself in this nation, within a few months past, that there shall be no further extension of the slave system upon our territory. We believe that, effectively, the victory won. We already fought, and the victory won. We rejoice at it, more than we rejoice at the public event within our memory. Whether we are right or wrong, the impulse of our whole heart is to say, We thank God for it!

We rejoice at it, and we give thanks; but it is in no spirit of unkindness to our fellow-citizens of the Southern States. We respect many of them whom we know. We have loved them to be perfectly sincere and conscientious in the defense of their system.

But they must allow us to be sincere too, and conscientious. We believe that enslaving men is substantially a wrong. We cannot get over, nor around, nor away from the conviction, that it is a wrong, which, instead of being extended, should be extinguished as fast as possible. We believe that it is a wrong to human nature,—that it is a wrong to man as man. What it is to man as an animal, we will not now ask; whether it feeds and clothes him well, whether it makes him comfortable, whether it allows him to be joyous and sportive, or how often it visits him with stripes, gashes him with wounds, sends blood-lustful dogs to pursue him like a dog or a wolf, we will not ask. Human slavery is a wrong to the nature that it takes effect upon. It mistakes and maims that nature. There stands a human being,—may his master cultivate his faculties as he would those of his child?—By no means; it will never do; he would be no longer a slave. Slavery, then, denies to this nature its inherent rights, denies its progress, commands it to stop, to stand still,—will not, does not, dares not permit it to rise. Why, let me ask any man, the stoutest defender of this system,—Would you think it right to enslave the poorest, meanest, most miserable, most imbecile white man that lives in the next cottage?—Would you think it right, right before God, to seize him or buy him and sell him, and sell his wife and his children, and their posterity forever, into hopeless bondage? The answer is, No. What then? Can the completion of a skin—whitened by a Northern sky, bronzed by an Indian climate, or blackened beneath the heats of Africa—make all this stupendous difference between right and wrong—make that to be just under one shade of color, which under another would be infinitely unjust? Is this the ethics of the slave system, that a brand or a chain upon a white skin is a heinous wrong, to make all the world cry out with indignation, and that a brand or a chain upon a colored skin is a righteous and lawful mark and badge?

This is the strong ground of the "Free Soil" argument, but this is not all. The wrong principle works out bad effects. Not as visionary dreamers, not as mere moralists, but as political economists, as patriot citizens, as those who wish to see upon their territories the most vigorous and prosperous growth of men. If there were a *Upar-tree* which could be introduced into California and New Mexico, to spread a fatal blight through all the land, who would permit it to be planted there? Slavery is that *Upar-tree*. It is a blight to industry, making it a degradation; it is a blight to the very soil, exhausting its fertility; it is a blight to the general education of the white race, from the necessary sparseness of that class of the population; it is a blight to the whole internal activity and mechanical genius and commercial prosperity of any people. Why, one of the strongest pleas for the occupancy of a new soil is, that the old is worn out. It is said, we know, that the torrid zone cannot be cultivated by any but black men.—Suppose it were true, that an argument for making them slaves! But we doubt if it be so. We do not believe that there is any region in which white men cannot be acclimated, and accustomed to toil. Are the people of Brazil and Hindostan and Siam black men? And even if the burning line bronzed the complexions of men as they approach it, is that, we repeat, any reason for making them slaves? Do the fire and fierce elements, as they sweep around, write slave upon the brow which they have darkened?

No, complexion is not the brand of servitude even in the slaveholder's estimation. It is descent from the slave mother, even though her children be almost as white as their master. It is not nature's direction, but arbitrary enactment that makes a slave. It is "local law." And it seems to us that it would have been much wiser for the slaveholder to have said that the law established a relation, rather than a tenure,—a certain relation between him and the slave, like the old serfdom, rather than property in man. A human being to be property! commodity, chattel, implement! Universal human nature cries out upon it with abhorrence. The idea is not tenable, nor tolerable, hardly conceivable. No, it is a relation established by arbitrary, particular local law. The slaveholder is stopped by all natural law from arguing that he has just as good a right to carry his slaves to the new territory as to carry his horse or his plough or his cotton-wool.

But here is the trouble. If the planter were forbidden by the government to carry a certain machine for packing cotton to the new territories, because it was known to injure the fabric, doubtless then he would

be offended. But it is a very different kind of offence that he takes at being forbidden to carry his slaves there. What is this difference? Why does this latter prohibition, or the proposal of it, awaken such a peculiar sensibility? It is that the refusal is put on moral grounds. It is our fixed conviction that slavery is morally wrong, that makes our position so exasperating to the people of the South. They say, "You prescribe us by the proposed law. You assail our characters. You say that we have among us a practice so bad that it cannot be tolerated. Then must be bad men. We cannot submit to this." For our own part, we are fully sensible to this bearing of our position and our argument; to their bearing upon many excellent, honorable, and Christian men. But we must say, that the fault is not ours. We have taken no new ground upon this matter of slavery. It is they that have placed themselves in a new and a wrong position. Pressed by attacks from the North, and indeed from the whole civilized world, and led on by an eminent statesman of their own, they have forsaken the old defensive ground and assumed the offensive. They have forsaken the ground which their own fathers held, that slavery was a system entailed upon them, and from which they could not immediately free themselves; and they boldly maintain that it is a most excellent, a most admirable, a most Christian institution, and ought to be permanent; that it is perfectly just and right to buy and sell men like cattle in the market, and to hold them in bondage forever. It is this that has brought us into direct, moral collision as opposing parties.

Who shall yield? It is a solemn and momentous question. We cannot. If they will not—if the Southern States choose to break off from this republic, and to set up a confederacy for themselves—there are two things, we think, not to mention others, which are to be commended to their very serious consideration. First, it has been well asked, which of those States will consent to be border States? Will Virginia and Kentucky, or will North Carolina and Tennessee? They must build a wall far higher than the Chinese wall, or they cannot keep their slaves a month. The bondman will have but to pass an imaginary line, to cross a field, or to leap a fence, and he will be free. Next, the republic, that establishes itself with the feelings and on the simple footing of a preference of the slave system, will lay itself under the ban of the whole Christian world. We should not wonder if some civilized nations should refuse to send ambassadors to it. We should not wonder if by others the very courtesies of private life should be denied to its citizens. The reproach of which they now complain would gather into a weight of universal reprobation that would be enough to crush down any people. They may resent the suggestion now; they may say they are sufficient to themselves; but no family, no community, no nation, can long stand against universal scorn and indignation.

The inhabitants of such a country would gradually forsake it, or they would go down in self-respect, in virtue, in character, as certainly as there are laws of the social world that bind them in common with other men.

These are painful things to say; but, in common with many other considerations, they persuade us that there will be no dissolution of this Union. It is painful to say them; but on such a subject, free, frank, plain words are to be spoken. The true courtesy between honest and honorable men is perfect and fearless sincerity. If we had brothers of our own blood in the South, we should say this to them. We should say, "You cannot separate from us; you cannot arrange any feasible plan of separation; and you would bring upon yourselves the deepest injury and dishonor before the whole world, if you could."

We say dishonor before the world. There is no doubt about that. But we mind not mainly, in this matter, what the world says, what the world calls dishonor. We stand upon the ground of eternal right. Freedom is our nature's birthright. Where is the man on the face of God's earth who will say, that for the slave to break the chain which binds him, and to flee from it, is an unworthy deed—is forbidden by nature's law? Nowhere. The voice of all the world thus adjudge slavery to be a wrong to humanity. Freedom, we say, is our nature's birthright. We are "called to liberty" by the voice of Heaven—and now, emphatically, of earth also. A cry has gone through the world, saying, "Up, and demand justice! Up, and be free! Justice! Empires are shaken, thrones tremble, kings grow pale at that word. Justice! It is the stability of the universe; it is the throne of Heaven; it is the guardianship of the world; it is the law of all time; it is the empire of eternity!"

The Emancipation of Slavery in Kentucky. Several gentlemen in the city of Louisville of both political parties, with Chancellor Nicholas at their head, have issued an address to the people of Kentucky, urging the propriety of providing in the new Constitution, for the gradual emancipation of the slaves in this State. The fact that most of these gentlemen are native Kentuckians, and those who are not, are slave holders, we should think, would entitle their appeal to a respectful and earnest consideration. The subject itself is one of solemn moment, and claims the profound attention of every patriot in the Commonwealth. It is of deeper interest in all its aspects than any other which could engage the public mind. It is perhaps no compliment to ourselves to speak the truth, that it is weaker in its bearing upon our moral sense than upon any other. Yet it is not strange that an institution, sanctioned by the tolerance of our fathers, and familiar to us from infancy as a mother's voice, should fail to stir in our bosoms the sensibilities with which any man, unaccustomed to the reality, would contemplate the revolting abstraction of human slavery. It is a question of economy that emancipation strikes us with most force, and in this point of view, it affords matter of profound reflection to every citizen of Kentucky.—The simple historical facts set forth in the address of Chancellor Nicholas and others, are enough to inspire us with serious doubts of the expediency of continuing the present system of labor in this State, if, indeed they do not evince the ruinous folly of it. Look at the following:

In 1790, Virginia had a population of 740,000, Pennsylvania 430,000, and New York 340,000. In 1840, Virginia had 1,240,000, Pennsylvania had 1,720,000, and New York 2,400,000. It thus appears that in the fifty years ending in 1840, Virginia increased her population only 68 per cent., while Pennsylvania increased hers 300 per cent., and New York 606 per cent. A comparison of their wealth and the yield of their industrial pursuits is equally to the disadvantage of Virginia. In 1800, Kentucky had a population of 220,000, Ohio 15,000, and Indiana 4,800. In 1840, Kentucky had 780,000, Ohio 1,520,000, and Indiana 680,000. The increase of Kentucky was only 255 per cent., while that of Ohio was 3,278 per cent., and of Indiana 14,067 per cent. At the late Presidential election Indiana cast some 40,000 more votes than Kentucky. A comparison of Kentucky with her South-western sisters would further develop the truth, that, from her geographical location and climate, she is not suited to negro slavery and while she is deprived of the advantages of a free State she cannot even prosper as a slave State. Take one instance.—From 1830 to 1840 Tennessee increased her population over 22 per cent. Kentucky increased hers in the same period only some thirteen per cent.

Does all this signify nothing, or will it be suggested that population is not wealth and prosperity? We presume there is no one so blind as not to see that aggregate or national wealth is in direct proportion to the number of people engaged in making it—to the number of hands employed in bringing it out of the earth and creating it in the almost countless forms of manufacture. For no one will dispute the proposition that every healthy man will produce more than he can consume. But how does population affect individual wealth? What is it, we ask, that gives value to every species of capital that a man can possess, (which he does not personally consume), but the demand for it, that is the number of human creatures who want it. For example, if there were a thousand more people in the county of Mecklenburg than now are, would not land and houses bring better prices? would not all commodities sell more rapidly? would not mechanical labor and professional services be more required? In a word, would not all kinds of business improve? We can foresee the intelligent and overwhelming reply which many gentlemen will make to these questions, "Oh, you are an abolitionist!" We could easily show that under the system proposed, no one would be compelled to sacrifice his negro property, even making no allowance for the enhancement of every other kind which might belong to him. And it would be as easy to show that the dreaded burden of a large population of free blacks settling in our midst, is a phantom of the imagination; but our limits forbid us to discuss these points, and we can only commend to the personal and study of our readers the document referred to, in which they are fully examined. We will not, however, forbear to remark, that if the evils apprehended are to be the real consequences of emancipation, we had better bring on the catastrophe at once, for it would be more tolerable now than at any future time; and that it must come sooner or later as certain as the progressive improvement of the human mind and the onward march of Christian civilization.—If an enlightened self-interest does not accomplish it, the advancing spirit of the age will.

The change which has within the last few years taken place, and is still rapidly going on in the public sentiment of this State in favor of it, is alone a sufficient guaranty of its ultimate consummation.—Revolutions seldom go backwards, those which are driven forward by a great truth, never. The question, therefore, is not whether we will perpetuate slavery here, but how long will we permit it to continue, and we cannot perceive the propriety of postponing an inevitable event for the sake of avoiding its alleged consequences, which every hour of delay must make worse. Whether the day to which the signs of the times incontestably point, has yet arrived we do not know; but it seems to us that rational creatures would scarcely require more proof of the paralyzing and withering influence of negro slavery in our climate and soil than the undisputed facts which stare us in the face. The feeble and stunted growth of our own State, the rapid advance and gigantic proportions of the free States, which lie by our side, less favored by nature, in all the elements of prosperity and strength than we, afford a plain and humiliating demonstration of this truth. But it is, perhaps, most visible in the decayed grandeur and melancholy decrepitude of that once pre-eminent old Commonwealth, which are proud to call our mother, and whose natural condition corresponds so nearly with our own.

Any warning could preserve us from the baleful curse, which has struck down the power and lighted the fortunes of Virginia, we might hear it in the howling of the owl from the windows of her deserted cabins, and see it in the return of the wolf and the vulture to places that were once the habitations of men.

We have, however, digressed farther than we intended from a simple reference to the leading points of the address, which is the subject of these comments. After exhibiting the comparative progress in population of the States, we have named, it proposes a convention of the friends of emancipation to assemble some time in the spring for the purpose, first to ascertain whether the prospect of success will warrant an effort to accomplish it at the present time, and secondly, if it should be thought that it will, to devise a plan of emancipation that will be most feasible and judicious. It then suggests, and discusses elaborately and powerfully the proposition that all females born after a named day shall be free at the age of twenty-one, and that the issue of such females shall be free when born though subject to apprenticeship to the former owners of the mothers. We again invoke the attention of our readers to this document. Its authors are men of talents and character whose interests are all bound up in the fortunes of the State, and whose honor is in her glory. What they would propose for her amelioration, therefore, may well be supposed worthy of the notice, if not the approbation, of her citizens.—West Kentuckian.

From the Nashville Eagle. Emancipation in Kentucky.

The following article embraces so nearly our own views in reference to Slavery in Kentucky in view of a change of our organic law, that we publish it in this connection, and commend it to the serious attention of the voters of the State. The suggestion of a meeting at the Court House on County Court day in February is a good one, and we presume will meet with general favor:

MR. COLLINS:—The call in the Flag for a meeting of all who are opposed to any kind of Emancipation whatever, however distant and gradual, and however thoroughly it may be accompanied by a Colonization of the whole black race of Kentucky, has been followed up by a series of articles in that paper which are plainly intended to class all friends to Emancipation and Colonization, with Cassius M. Clay. Now Cassius M. Clay is an advocate for Emancipation, absolutely, without connecting it with Colonization. And I believe there is no slaveholder in Mason, who does not connect Colonization, as an indispensable accompaniment, with every scheme of Emancipation which he may adopt. The following project is generally contended for by the Emancipationists of Kentucky, and by the slaveholders of that party, almost without exception.

First. Let all slaves now in existence, or born in Kentucky before the 1st of January, 1860, remain slaves for life.

Second. Let all male slaves born after January, 1860, be free at twenty-five, and all females born after the same period be free at twenty-one.—Provided, that upon reaching that age, they shall be hired out for two years or longer if necessary, until a fund shall be accumulated sufficient to transport them to Liberia, and give them a start in that colony.

Third. No slave thus emancipated shall remain in Kentucky, as a freeman.

Now, Mr. Editor, you will see at once, that by this system, there is no sacrifice of slave property imposed upon the slaveholder against his will. All his negroes born before 1860, remain his property forever. He may sell them or keep them in Kentucky, as he pleases. And no slave is emancipated until 1865 or 1861, and is then sent out of the State.

This gives a period of nearly forty years before the system will even begin to work, and it will begin so gradually, that all will have time to make ready for it. If the State could be persuaded to adopt this system, it would, in about sixty years, free us from the negro population entirely, which almost all admit to be a heavy political and social evil. By this means emancipation is made voluntary. For if I do not choose to await the period of emancipation, I can send my slaves to Texas, Florida, or Mississippi, and go with them myself if I prefer living in a slave State. A great many slaveholders in the county are known to favor this plan, but no determination has yet been formed or expressed, as to whether this is a proper time to make the question directly in the county or not. Some are desirous of making the question plainly and fully in the choice of delegates to the Convention. But there are many considerate and well known friends to the cause, who think that the main question should not be directly presented in the coming canvass, but should be deferred for five or six years at least, and that nothing more should be aimed at in the coming canvass, than to have a provision inserted in the new Constitution, by which a vote of the people could hereafter be taken upon that or any other single question, by an act of the Legislature, authorizing the same, without the necessity of taking the whole Constitution to pieces whenever a change is desired.—There ought to be unanimity upon this subject, and if any action at all is to be taken, let us, if possible, to act together. Let us have a meeting at the February county court, and calmly consider what is best to be done. Perhaps Mr. Calhoun's "wise and masterly inactivity," may be as proper to secure Emancipation, as it was to get "the whole or none of Oregon." Some of us are for "fifty-four forty, or fight," some of us are for compromising at "forty-nine," and some for Calhoun's "masterly course." Let us meet and see what we ought to do.

A SLAVEHOLDER OF MASON.

From the Franklin Commonwealth. Slavery in the Colonies in 1776.

Aided by an article which appeared some time since under the above title in the New Orleans Commercial Times, we have consulted the various authorities within our reach upon this subject, and we find that at the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the whole number of slaves in the colonies, was estimated at 500,000, and were divided among us as follows:

Massachusetts,	3,300	Delaware,	9,000
Rhode Island,	4,370	Maryland,	80,000
Connecticut,	5,000	Virginia,	165,000
New Hampshire,	625	N. Carolina,	75,000
New York,	15,000	S. Carolina,	110,000
New Jersey,	7,000	Georgia,	16,000
Pennsylvania,	10,000		
Total,			502,133

In August 1620, the first slaves ever brought to this country were landed on Rhode Island, in the colony of Virginia, from a Dutch ship of war. They were landed and sold, and very soon thereafter, negroes constituted a very important and lucrative species of merchandise, in nearly or quite all the colonies. They were brought over in large numbers and were sought after with great eagerness by the agriculturists of those primitive times. They continued to be imported to a greater or less extent, until the tide was checked by the act of Congress of 1808.

From 1776 to 1790—the slave population in the United States increased about 39 per cent. The census for 1800 exhibited a slave population of 593,041; that of 1810, 1,104,364; of 1820, 1,639,964; of 1830, 2,009,031; and of 1840, 2,486,355.

At the separation of the American colonies from Great Britain, slavery existed in all of them. In seven of the original 13 States, it has been abolished. Eight new States have been admitted, in which slavery exists.

We have been engaged in preparing a table with a view to show the number of slaves in the several States which have abolished slavery, at the time they commenced the work of emancipation. The difficulties in making an accurate table presenting these facts, are great, because we have not in the State library anything from which they can be gathered; but we hope to be able,

from other sources, to get the desired information very shortly. All matters connected with this question, are now of interest and importance to the people of Kentucky, and we shall spare no labor to secure for our readers, all facts of interest in relation to it.

For the present, we subjoin a table of the number of slaves in the slave-holding States, and the free colored population in the free States, as shown by the census of 1840:

Slave States.	No. Slaves.	Free States.	No. Free Colored.
Alabama,	3,200	Maine,	2,355
Delaware,	89,737	N. Hampshire,	530
Florida,	448,957	Vermont,	737
Georgia,	241,817	Connecticut,	1,105
Illinois,	327,038	Rhode Island,	3,228
Indiana,	290,944	Massachusetts,	5,559
Mississippi,	253,532	New York,	50,027
Minnesota,	195,540	New Jersey,	21,044
Louisiana,	168,452	Pennsylvania,	47,854
Kentucky,	182,325	Ohio,	17,343
Tennessee,	183,059	Indiana,	1,165
Missouri,	58,240	Illinois,	3,398
Arkansas,	19,335	Michigan,	707
Florida,	25,717	Iowa,	172
Dist. of Columbia,	4,234	Wisconsin,	185

Total, 2,486,726 Total, 386,293

A comparison of the two tables presented in this article exhibits the singular fact, that since 1776, since which time New York has emancipated her slaves, the free colored population of New York, has nearly quadrupled her then slave population. Indeed the ratio of the increase of the free colored population of both New York and Pennsylvania, is greater than the ratio of increase of the slave population of Virginia, within the same period!

The entire free colored population of the United States in 1790, was but 59,460; since that period it has grown in the free State alone, to 386,293.

The Original Declaration of Independence. Most persons are, probably, aware that North Carolina has claimed the honor of issuing the first declaration of independence, more than a year before that celebrated declaration drafted by Jefferson, made its appearance. "The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence" was said to have been issued in May, 1775, but was not made notorious till 1779.

There was a striking similarity in sentiment and phraseology in the two Declarations, which caused many to infer, that the last one was a copy of the first, with amendments only. Mr. John Adams, in 1779, enclosed a copy of the Mecklenburg Declaration to Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Jefferson in his answer, regarded the document as spurious, and characterised the pretence that such a paper was in existence previous to the drafting of his famous "Fourth of July Declaration," as a "very unjustifiable quack."

The public mind determined, but very erroneously it seems, that the North Carolina Declaration of May, 1775, was spurious; but it is now proved authentic beyond all doubt. Mr. Bancroft, our Minister to England, by his researches in the British State Paper Office, has established the claim of the old North State, of having made the first move in colonial emancipation.

He has found the copy of the resolves of the Committee of Mecklenburg, sent over to England by the Colonial Governor of Georgia, which establishes the fact that Independence was first proclaimed in North Carolina in May, 1775.

The following letter of Mr. Bancroft, was recently communicated to the Legislature of North Carolina:

90, EATON SQUARE, }
LONDON, 4th July, 1848. }

MY DEAR SIR: I hold it of good augury that your letter of the 12th of June reached me by the Hermann, just in time to be answered this morning.

You may be sure that I have spared no pains to discover, in the British State Paper Office, a copy of the resolves at the committee of Mecklenburg, and with entire success. A glance at the map will show you that, in those days, the traffic of that part of North Carolina took a southerly direction, and people in Charleston, and sometimes even in Havana, knew what was going on in "Charlotte Town," before Governor Martin. The first account of "the extraordinary resolve by the people in Charlotte Town," Mecklenburg county," was sent over to England by Sir James Wright, then Governor of Georgia, in a letter of the 20th of June, 1775.

The newspaper thus transmitted is still preserved, and is the number 498 of the South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal, Tuesday, June 13, 1775. I read the resolves, you may be sure, with reverence, and immediately obtained a copy of them, thinking myself the sole discoverer. I do not send you the copy, as it is identically the same with the paper which you enclosed to me, but I forward to you a transcript of the entire letter of Sir James Wright. The newspaper seems to have reached him after he had finished his despatch; for the paragraph relating to it is added in his own hand writing, the former part of the letter being written by a secretary or clerk.

I have read a great many papers relating to the regulators, and am having copies made of a large number. Your own State would be to them all, and the expense would be for the State insignificant, if it does not send an agent on purpose. A few hundred dollars would copy all you need from the State Paper Office, on all North Carolina topics. Their complaints were well founded, and were so acknowledged, although the oppressors were only nominally punished. They form the connecting link between resistance to the stamp act and the movement of 1775; and they also played a glorious part in taking possession of the Mississippi valley, toward which they were carried irresistibly by their love of independence. It is a mistake if any have supposed that the regulators were cowed down by their defeat at the Allamance.—Like the mammoth, they shook the bolt from their brow and crossed the mountains.

I shall always be glad to hear from you, and to be of use to you, or your State.

Very truly yours,
GEORGE BANCROFT.

D. L. SWAIN, Esq.,
Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

The above letter establishes the fact, beyond all question, that independence was first proclaimed in Mecklenburg, North Carolina, in May, 1775.

The letter of Sir James Wright, referred to by Mr. Bancroft, closes as follows:—"By the enclosed paper, your Lordship

will see the extraordinary resolves of the people of Charlotte Town in Mecklenburg county, and I should not be surprised if the same should be done everywhere else."

Enterprise. We find the following notice of Simmons' Oak Hall establishment in the city of Boston, in Hunt's Merchant's Magazine. Few persons who have not visited this immense establishment can have any idea of the amount of business done, or of the admirable system by which it is managed by Mr. Simmons.

A MODEL CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in Boston one of the largest establishments for the manufacture of clothes in the United States. We allude to Simmons' "Oak Hall Rotunda," as it is termed by its enterprising proprietor. Some idea of its extent may be gathered from the fact, that the sales amount to half a million dollars per annum, and that there are employed in the manufacture 25 fashionable cutters and trimmers, 2 book-keepers, 1 cashier and assistant, 1 paymaster, 5 runners, 2 expresses, 30 salesmen, and 3,000 operatives constantly plying the needle. The Boston Post furnishes the following description of this mammoth concern:

Mr. George W. Simmons, of Oak Hall, has marked the season by making a most important improvement in his vast establishment. He has added a spacious and lofty rotunda in the rear of the large sales-rooms on Ann street. This rotunda is also for a clothes mart, and is well worthy of a description, and should be visited as an object of interest by those who are anxious in observing how the trade of Boston in the clothing branch is rapidly increasing. The dimensions of the rotunda are 50 feet by 47, giving an area of 2,350 feet on the basement floor, and the depth from the centre of the splendid variegated skylight to the floor is 65 feet. The light is 20 feet by 13, and the stained glass is of the most beautiful pattern. The main saloon, open from the first raised floor to the stucco ceiling, and filled with a flood of light from above and on every side, is in fact divided into two apartments, by means of a gallery of oak, with an elegant iron balustrade. The gallery is reached by a short flight of stairs, which branch off into a pair, turning to the right and left on the west side. Above the basement portion the form is elliptic.—On the first floor there are nine elliptic counters, with room on each for nine salesmen to wait on customers at ease—making eighteen in all at the counters, and around the counters are shelves for 8,000 articles of clothing. In the intervals are four small rooms, or lighted closets, for assorted made up clothing. Between the counters and the well-wooded railing is a broad promenade from which may be seen not only all the parts of the rotunda, but the two sales-rooms which project into Ann street. This view is obtained by means of two twelve-foot doors, which afford access to the rotunda from the Ann street rooms. In the second, or gallery tier, are no less than twelve rooms for assorted garments, regularly classified, completely lighted with ample windows. Here, too, is Mr. Simmons' own apartment, on the western side of the gallery, which commands a view of the whole establishment, resembling a gay bazaar with two long streets. In the night the light is supplied by 24 gas burners in shaded globes. The walls from the gallery to the dome are ornamented by beautiful pilasters of the Corinthian order. The basement apartment is devoted to woollens and piece goods, and an immense furnace, set up by Mr. White, for warming the establishment in winter. Here, then, we have "Oak Hall for Eighteen Hundred and Forty-nine," the most extensive establishment for the sale of clothing in the United States, namely, a rotunda of three tiers, counting the pit, two long avenues, alive with salesmen, projecting from the rotunda to Ann street, and five large store and sales rooms up stairs in the old building. There are on hand in this immense magazine of wearing apparel 45,000 garments, and stock enough for 60,000 more; and the entire arrangement, regarded as a whole, is much more like a vast clothing fair than a retail store.

Illinois—Her Debt and Resources. Governor French, in his message, states the total amount of the State debt at \$16,612,795 37, of which \$8,004,622 09 is the canal debt.

To pay this, besides the ordinary revenue from taxation, the State has 145,000 acres of land, valued at \$870,000; also the tolls receivable upon the Illinois and Michigan Canal, which amounted last year, being its first season, to \$88,000, and which must increase greatly each successive year; and also canal lands, lots, &c., from which will be realized not less than \$3,500,000.

The Governor is a hard money man; repudiates all banks and banking systems, and is in favor of gold and silver only.—Cin. Gaz.

New York—Interesting Facts. Mr. Fillmore, the Comptroller of the State of New York, and Vice President elect of the United States, in his report has embodied most interesting information.

The canal revenue, as every one knows, is the great source of the treasury's prosperity. That contributes its millions on millions—but the other sources of revenue are not as familiar to strangers.

The auction duties from 1798 to 1848, have exceeded eight millions of dollars—the auctioneers of New York City have paid into the State Treasury, nearly as much as the cost of the Erie and Champlain Canals.

The State tax is \$302,597 27—of which New York city pays \$123,575 15—being half a mill tax. The Empire State is proud, and justly so, of her freedom from oppressive State taxation. In 1843 and 1844, the tax was one mill—1845 one mill and one-tenth of a mill—1846 and 1847, six-tenths of a mill—1848, one-half of a mill—and this is the extent of the burden imposed by the State of New York upon its people.

The State received for salt duties the past year \$43,347 67—from the tax on foreign insurance companies \$4,810—from the sale of the splendid series of the "Natural History of New York," \$4,137—from tolls paid by railroads under the freight law, \$96,160 44.

The salaries of all the State Judges, being four Judges of Appeals and thirty-two Supreme Court Judges, amount to \$90,445

64—which is but a little more than is paid any two of the higher Judges in England.

The clerk hire, in all the departments of the public service, was \$162,730 11—all the official postage of the State, \$2,297 38. The prisons cost the State \$604,273 93.

But there are portions of this pre-eminent rich and prosperous State, that still remain a "howling wilderness," for the report shows that the State paid the last year thirty-five dollars bounty on wolves.

There was also paid \$1,375 for instructing Indian children, and \$122,694 87 for Indian annuities.

Proportion in Massachusetts. The Secretary of State has submitted an abstract of the returns of the overseers of the poor, to the Legislature. It comprises all the towns in the State but

The Railroad across the Isthmus of Panama.

We have received the Report of T. Butler King, Chairman of the Naval Committee of the House, in favor of extending governmental aid, in constructing the Railroad across the Isthmus of Panama, to Messrs. Aspinwall, Stephens and Company.

This Report is an exceedingly able and valuable document, embodying a large amount of important information, and in reference to an enterprise which is destined to effect a revolution in the commercial world, and vastly to the benefit of our country.

We propose, by brief extracts and statements from the Report, to furnish our readers with the views entertained by the Committee in relation to this important enterprise.

The cost of the Railroad and appurtenances is estimated at \$5,000,000, and the Report recommends a grant of \$250,000 a year, for twenty years, to the projectors, to enable them to make the road—at the end of which period the charter expires. The charter allows eight years to build the road, but it is proposed to do it in three years.

The following extracts will show some of the benefits predicted:

The committee will now proceed to state more specifically some of the benefits which our country will derive from the completion of the proposed work from the completion of Panama. In the year 1841, seven American ships cleared at the custom-house of Canton, and it is believed, from reliable information, that there are now at least 65 American ships engaged in the China trade, and that the new route across the Isthmus will save an average of \$10,000 a voyage, or \$500,000 per annum, in our commerce with China, besides the saving of interest on the capital employed in it, by making two voyages a year instead of one. This may be set down at \$1,500,000 per annum.

One-fourth of the time employed in a whaling voyage is consumed in going to and returning from the fishing ground. The annual production of that branch of commerce is about 10,000,000. This shows an actual loss of time equal to about two millions and a half. It is estimated that the new route will save one half of that, or \$1,250,000 per annum. The length of the voyage now causes an average loss of \$1,000 per cent, of oil, or an annual loss of \$1,000,000. It is admitted that the new route will prevent this loss, and save \$1,000,000 annually. As we have this item of \$1,000,000 annually. As we have this item of \$1,000,000 annually. As we have this item of \$1,000,000 annually.

The report estimates, that at the end of three years, there will be 500,000 people in California, requiring as equal number of barrels of flour, beef, pork, &c., annually. That the saving of the new route will be one dollar a year per barrel, equal to one million of dollars a year on these agricultural products; to say nothing of the new market afforded, the saving of time in the voyage, and interest of capital employed in the trade. That there is no probability that a supply of provisions will be raised in California, by reason of the mineral wealth, and the supply must come from the side of the Isthmus. This would make the shipment round Cape Horn very expensive, and the transit over the Railroad an immense saving in 30 years.

The amount saved on the fourteenth alone mentioned, are thus estimated in the Report:

In the China trade, \$80,000 per annum, for twenty years, \$1,600,000	
In the whale fishery, \$2,500,000 per annum, for twenty years, 50,000,000	
In the trade with the west coast of America, exclusive of our territory, \$300,000 per annum, for twenty years, 6,000,000	
On the freight of flour, beef, pork, &c., \$100,000 per annum, for twenty years, 2,000,000	
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THE Boston Journal says that the ice crop in that quarter has been remarkably good this season, and that large quantities have been stored for exportation. The shipments of ice from Boston last year amounted to nearly 75,000 tons.

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LITERARY EXAMINER.

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 Stay not to look upon the brink
 Of high and holy calling;
 But, being right, with all thy might
 Go on—the clouds of sorrow,
 That here to-day obscure the way,
 May all be gone to-morrow.

The world may cheer, and laugh, and jeer,
 Yet stay not for repining;
 Alike for all, the great and small,
 Creation's light is shining.
 Take heart of oak, there is no stroke
 Man strikes, but it may aid him,
 For if the deed from good proceed,
 Say what on earth shall shade him!

As every joy we unemploy
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 And it may be, perchance if we
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From the *Illustrated Magazine*.
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 of life, reserved for another state of being.
 There is just enough of it here to stimulate
 our faith, our hope, our struggles for the
 hereafter. But what is nearest to happi-
 ness, tranquility, contentment, cheerfulness,
 serenity, are attainable, are to be had by a
 wise use of the means most of us possess;
 by cherishing what we have, and not regretting
 or desiring what we have not. One of the
 evils of the unparalleled activity of our
 young country is a restless desire of change.
 Our men are "young Rapiers." "Dash on—
 keep moving," are the watchwords; and the
 mass of the social world seems playing
 the game of toilet, changing places with no
 effect but change.

There is a comfortable exception to this
 general passion in a certain community we
 know, doubtless there are many like it un-
 known to us, where an order of out-of-door
 vestals dwell, with no conventional walls of
 man's masonry, but surrounded not im-
 prisoned by piles of marble, whose sides are
 bristled with maples, elms, beeches, pines,
 and the glowing mountain ash. Their
 gates are not guarded by angels with flaming
 swords, turning every way, but tended by
 smiling hospitable spirits. Nor, whatever
 splenic travelers may have said or written,
 is there inscribed upon them: those words of
 insolent defiance,

"Lasciate ogni speranza voi ch'entrate."

On the contrary, their lay-brothers enter
 with hope and depart without despair, and
 not alone! Nothing can be more liberal
 than the laws of the sisterhood. They are
 only severe against the fendish
 vices of hate, envy, calumny, jealousy, and
 all the brood of discord. Such common
 infirmities as vanity, folly, and dullness,
 are, in moderate degree, tolerated, for these
 are wise virgins, and aim at nothing un-
 attainable. General friendliness, and every-
 day kindness, are the cement of their as-
 sociation. Detraction is held by them as a
 crime—murder in the first degree; and
 gossip is only endured, when there are found
 natures too weak for its absolute prohibition.
 However, there is such a general diffusion
 of light and moral health in the atmosphere
 that it dies of itself, or is hunted down as
 vermin are by cleanly housekeepers.

The superiors, leaders, or rather elect
 ladies of this community, are those who
 have performed the pilgrimage of married
 life, a pilgrimage that indeed most of our
 vestals perform, sooner or later—a pecu-
 liarity of their order. These superiors use
 no enforcement but the gentle one of ex-
 ample. They do not appoint the duties of
 the vestals, nor watch over their perfor-
 mance. It is eminently a "free soil, free la-
 bor, free speech" order. The supervision
 of the ladies elect is confined to the festal
 rites. For these, daily and nightly they
 open their saloons, and from their lovely
 gardens and teeming store-rooms provide
 the material elements to sustain them. They
 have no sibylline warning or cooing,
 no conventional maneuvering. There is no
 call for these old world appliances,
 where purity and innocence are watch and
 warder.

Our fine young lady readers, if such we
 have, may think this all very well, insipid
 thought it be, for ladies of a certain age, or
 sleepy dames in the sober decline of life;
 but to the young and lovely, it must be a
 dismal blank. No—let the young and lovely
 bide their time. It will come. Mean-
 while the whole occupation and inter-
 est of life are not cast on one die. There
 are social duties to be done; new studies
 to be followed; pleasant books to be read;
 new mysteries of the needle to be explored;
 and life goes on cheerily, without the
 continual excitement of the sentimental
 relations, or the uninterrupted presence of
 the nobler—no! rarer sex. When the
 evening sets in, and neither lecture, poetry,
 opera, nor play, in perspective, the mail
 (the event, in country life) arrives. Then
 there are letters, perchance from India,
 London, Paris, or at worst, there is the
 morning paper from town; and even the
 young vestals, who have pursued their dry
 studies in Herodotus and Rollin, during the
 day, have yet some interest in the whirling
 political wheel of Europe, and lend a docile
 ear when their elders tell them that it is
 quite as important to know something of
 the crumbling thrones of to-day, as of the
 doubtful dynasties of three or four thousand
 years ago. If clouds lower without, and
 outdoor exercise is impracticable, a romping
 cotillion occupies the twilight, or polkas
 and waltzes a part of the evening, the dan-
 cing, it may be, not quite as prolonged as
 when the "rarer sex" are present. Some-
 times, but rarely, there is recourse to loud
 reading. Social enjoyment is the order of
 the evening; and the minds of the com-
 munity are too various for one book to unite
 all tastes and sympathies. So reading is
 set apart for the day, and there are social
 plays, improvised or remembered. Occa-
 sionally a whist party is formed for a
 charming elderly friend, who puts up with
 the irregularities of feminine playing, for
 the sake of his favorite game, never failing
 to remark in his conclusions, that the worst
 difference in the long run, and indicating
 by irrefragable good humor, that he is content
 to suffer the tariff, for his favorite recrea-

tion. Nothing would be more abhorrent
 to him than the game (or anything in life)
 "à la rigueur." He considers it, as a
 mere filling up the chasm in conversation,
 and as affording an opportunity to the six-
 teens to let off their steam, which they
 usually do in a round game, or in unburied
 hilarity of explosions of talk, by courtesy
 called conversation.

These are the evenings after days of out-
 door enjoyment. The mellow days of
 autumn are the best of all the year for this.
 Nature's oracle-poet must have had a fit of
 dyspepsy on him when he said of them—
 "The melancholy days are come, the sad-
 dest of the year." "Melancholy!" when
 every breath of the nectar air brings back
 to the old feelings of their youth, and
 when to the young every hour is bright for
 woodland ranging and field sports!
 "Melancholy!" when the leaves look as
 if they were dyed in melted gems; and, as
 they fade, fade into the tints and harmonies
 that old painters loved. "Melancholy!"
 when the sky is bright as a poet's dream
 from dawn to twilight; when every sunny
 hour may be spent in traversing old paths,
 or finding new ones, treading the rustling
 leafy carpet, brilliant as Florence mosaic.
 "Melancholy!" when we turn children again,
 and live on that effluence of beauty that
 still thrills our senses. Oh, no! Call
 spring with its lassitude, summer with its
 withering heat, "melancholy," and the
 stunted freezing days of winter the "sad-
 dest of the year," but not the golden autumn
 days.

A pleasant week passed, in October, in
 this cheerful community, led me to consider
 the wealth of enjoyment we all might have
 within our own modest homes. The gay-
 eties of summer were over, and the placid
 pleasures I have described had succeeded to
 them. The vacations in city life, it
 must be confessed, are the great epochs in
 this rural district, marked by the advent of
 brothers and cousins who have gone to the
 city to make their fortunes (for this com-
 munity is not all born of the female kind).
 When these not less than "kin," and more
 than "kind," come home, every day is a
 festal day. Then for excursions to the
 mountains, water-falls, picnics, drives, rides,
 serenades, torch-light parties, and moon-
 light rambles. But this season of general
 movement and vitality was passed, and all
 had subsided into the customary course.—
 It was evident that mankind, as mere man-
 kind, was not essential to the cheerfulness
 of a community of young women; that we
 have fallen on better times than those were,
 when a clever woman said of her sex, and a
 satirist repeated it:

"Most women have no character at all;"

for those must have character, of no mean
 quality, who do not require the occupation
 of business, nor the excitement of pleasure
 (so-called), who need not the incitement of
 rivalries and coquetries, the passions of love
 and jealousy, and all the greater and minor
 pursuits therewith connected, that have been
 supposed to make the history of young wo-
 men's lives; nor the gossiping and ma-
 nouvering which has been the role of their
 elders. The usual chances of life happen
 to our community, but they come unheeded.
 There are Beatrices without them. One is taken
 and another left; and the charm of it is, that
 those left are quite as well satisfied as those
 taken, seeming to consider the security and
 exemptions of their haven as equivalents
 for the possible gain of the outward-bound
 voyager.

Soon after my arrival at —, I was in-
 troduced to a very striking and charming
 young woman, who had been passing the
 whole summer there, and who, being cap-
 tivated with their rural life, is prolonging
 her visit far into the autumn. She is just
 eighteen, with exuberant spirits, and a self-
 complacency, a little exaggerated, perhaps,
 but accompanied with such general kind-
 ness and good humor, that it offends no one.
 E. M. is very handsome, frank, easy and
 attractive.

I have said that there is no gossiping in
 —. In its bad sense there is none; but in
 a circle of close and lively sympathies,
 there are certain vibrations, and what the
 character of those vibrations in a circle of
 females is likely to be, may be easily im-
 agined.

"F. H. was with you this summer," I said
 to one of the elders, my contemporary. F. H.
 is a young lawyer in town, an intimate
 friend of the brothers and cousins of our
 vestals, and who, from his boyhood, has
 been a part in all their summer pleasures.
 In the day dreams of old and young, a
 pretty web or romance had been spun
 around F. H., and a certain young favorite
 and adopted child of the community, who,
 having neither father, mother, brother, nor
 sister, has, by her sweet qualities and graces,
 created and multiplied these relations, and
 is child or sister to the whole community.
 In answer to my question, my friend replied,
 "Yes; F. H. was with us a month."

"Is there any progress in his and L.'s
 affair?"
 "Oh, no! It goes like a crab, backward.
 F. H. did not seem like himself this sum-
 mer. You know he is naturally shy and
 reserved, and to tell you the truth, I think
 —we all think—F. H. prefers our hand-
 some visitor to L."

"Impossible!" I exclaimed; "if he ever
 were interested in dear little L. She is not
 —not quite so handsome—not so striking,
 certainly, as this town young lady, but her
 face is more engaging. She is a thousand
 times more captivating."

"To us—yes. But young men are al-
 ways bewitched by beauty—and E. M. is so
 frank and easy—just the sort of girl to
 afford a refuge to a reserved man. Her
 cheerful loquacity fills every awkward
 chasm in conversation, and her incessant
 activity keeps up a pleasant ripple on a
 quiet surface. She is a charming creature,
 I confess. But she is a camelion for draw-
 ing-room wear, and our dear little L. a for-
 get-me-not, to be worn in the bosom."
 "It is very strange," I said, "that you should
 all have been so in your surmises."
 "I don't know. We believed what we
 so much desired. L. is alone in the world.
 Alone! though I, with such a band of angel
 friends around her. 'And we have all con-
 fidence in F. H.' They certainly have
 seemed from their childhood to lean to each
 other—but I suppose it was the accident of
 position rather than sympathy, on F. H.'s
 part. Men should be more cautious. I
 cannot think of F. H.—so, I do not think he
 has voluntarily done wrong. Like most men,
 he has been fickle—yielded to a newer at-
 traction. I have loved him so much that I
 cannot bear to blame him; but I must say
 I hope he'll not come here again."
 I perceived my friend was dreadfully an-
 noyed. "Never!" I said.
 "Never!" I do not say that; but not till
 L. has done blushing in the mention of his
 name, and trying to be particularly gay
 when E. M. is rallied about him."
 She had hardly finished this sentence
 when the door opened, and F. H. entered,
 and my friend, in spite of her vexation and
 disapprobation, received him with her wont-
 ed cordiality. The strong current of old

love flowed over the little obstruction that
 had lately clogged it.
 There was a general excitement and
 glow through the party that had assembled
 at my friend's that evening, and some little
 awkwardness too. Nothing could be more
 unexpected than F. H.'s arrival. He was
 not expected till the year should come
 round. He had expressly said, when urged
 to come in the winter holidays, he could
 not come till summer vacation. All thoughts
 fixed on the city friend as the solution of
 the riddle. This was a new-found star that
 caused the perturbations of their planet.

Woman is as strong in her strength as
 she is weak in her weakness. Our dear
 little L., betrayed no excited feeling—ap-
 peared nothing different from usual, except
 that perhaps she talked more, and rather
 with her elders than her young friends. F.
 H. did not contribute to the cheerfulness
 of the evening. He was taciturn and abstrac-
 ted, and though, for an American-bred youth,
 exact and graceful in his manners, he turned
 over a chair, utterly demolished the fire in
 attempting to put up a fallen brand—and
 while standing by Miss —, overset a
 lamp on the mantle-piece. He caught it in
 time to save my friend's carpet. The
 disaster was evidently considered generally
 as equivalent to a declaration of love for
 Miss —. She was the only one who
 had the presence of mind to rally him on
 his awkwardness.

The next afternoon L. was playing some
 of Beethoven's music, which she plays
 deliciously. My friend was sitting in her
 rocking-chair, by the fire, half dozing over
 the last Boston Weekly Messenger, and F.
 H. was on the sofa, apparently dividing his
 attention between the music and Alice D.,
 a teasing little girl of eight years old.—
 "I know something about you, F.," she
 said. "Yes, you know you love me." "No;
 indeed; I don't love anybody that I don't
 love me, and you love—hat—I know who."
 "I love you, Alice." "No, no; no;
 shall I tell you who it is?" F. H. tried to
 stop her mouth with a kiss, and a whisper.
 There was false playing at the piano. Little
 Alice felt her power of tormenting, and
 true to her woman's nature, was determined
 not to lose the opportunity. "I'll tell you
 who mamma says it is, and cousin Mary,
 and aunt Sarah, and the whole of them; I
 heard them all talking about it when they
 thought I was fast asleep. Now, Mr. F.,
 pretend you don't know, and guess. You
 can't! Well, I'll tell you, Miss —," and
 the mischievous little thing pronounced
 the name of the beautiful guest, syllable
 by syllable. Poor L., she is the most
 habitually self-controlling young person I
 have ever known; and whether it was that
 she was not well at this moment, and her
 nerves were particularly irritable, or that
 her feelings had acquired force by too long
 repression, and that the child had touched
 the spring and opened the flood gates, I
 know not; but she burst into a flood of
 tears—rose from the piano—and then, for
 the first time in life disengaged, she laugh-
 ed—said that music of Beethoven's always
 affected her strangely—wiped away her
 tears—thrust her handkerchief into her
 little net bag on the piano, and was reseat-
 ing herself, as if to proceed with her music,
 when, most fortunately for her, some one
 called her from the stairs, and she disap-
 peared. The elder lady was by this time
 apparently in a profound nap. Alice's
 attention was attracted by a robin on the
 door-step, and F. H., after going to the
 piano, leaned over it, and walking up and
 down the room two or three times, went to
 his apartment.

The evening found the little community
 again gathered at my friend's. It promised
 to go off more cheerfully than the preced-
 ing. If I may be allowed the expression,
 they had become more easy in the harness,
 adjusted their ideas to the apparent neces-
 sity of the existing state of things. After the
 hospitable rites of tea were over, and the
 usual allowance of music and dancing had
 played were proposed. The line of poetry
 —"what is my thought like?" the historical
 game, and, finally, rhapsody. It must be
 confessed that our obscure community has
 a tendency to the intellectual even in their
 debasements; scoffers might say, a leaning
 to the blue stockinging. Be it so; pedantry is
 better than idleness.

As this rhapsody writing is a pleasant
 trial of ingenuity, without being taxing, I
 will describe it for the benefit of such as
 may be ignorant of it, and give some ex-
 amples that were produced on this evening.
 The scoffers alluded to above might have
 had rare fun in caricaturing the deep blue
 vestal set to weaving the warp and wool
 in fancy's loom. Their shuffles were any
 thing but a type of swiftness. Some im-
 patiently snapped off the work, and threw
 it away; some cut it off to prose. But if
 the muses were not invoked, they were not
 insulted. If there was nothing to claim
 admiration there was nothing to provoke
 ridicule.

Each person writes a question, and after
 it is a single word (the more grotesque the
 better), on a strip of paper, and puts it in a
 bowl; then each draws a question from the
 bowl, writes an answer in rhyme or prose,
 as pleases her, and deposits it in the bowl.
 The responses are read aloud.

Ques. "Which is worst—Folly or Wick-
 edness?" [Word shoe.]

Ans. "Folly sometimes wears shoes
 Too tight upon her little toe,
 And wickedness is often led
 Upon that little toe to tread."

This proceeded from our Beatrice, who
 has readiness, keenness, everything apper-
 taining to wit, but its acid and bitter.

Ques. "Who is the father of Zebedee's
 children?" [Word whale.]

Ans. "Not to tell too long a tale,
 Know Mr. Zebedee married Miss Whale.
 They were the parents of children three—
 Tom, John, and little Dickey."

L. wrote that, said Alice D., who was
 sitting on F. H.'s knee; for I saw her;
 but it's no answer to the question: Who
 was the father?—to tell who was the mother.
 I don't believe she knew what she was
 about. Do you, F. H. She is so strange to-
 day! I saw her put an old flower in her
 work-basket, and throw her scissors in the
 fire! Was not that funny, F.?"

"Oh! thought I, 'who will choke that
 child?' No one seemed to hear her, and
 the reading proceeded.

Ques. "How should the only gentleman
 in the room choose a partner?" [Word lot.]

Ans. "Your task was hard enough to drive one
 to despair—
 To find the fairest where all alike were
 fair;
 But though you could not soon decide,
 yet still it matters not;
 You might have written all their names,
 and drawn them out by lot."

"Ah, F. H. would not do that way; do you
 think he would?" asked F. H.'s tormentor,
 turning to Miss —.
 "Oh, no," she answered readily, "we are
 all written on Mr. H.'s heart, and cannot
 be drawn out."
 "Oh, no—not all—not nearly all—all
 but one," cried Alice. F. H. was evidently

becoming annoyed with the little girl's sal-
 lies—I dare not say impertinence; and who
 dares to check a child in these days of
 chivalry? So she remained on F. H.'s
 knee, and the play proceeded.

Ques. "Is the steamer in?" [Word ex-
 tinguisher.]

Ans. "The steamer's in—I scarce can wait—
 The letter-bag so slowly opens:
 What, none for me! oh, cruel fate,
 Extinguisher of my fond hopes!"

"Not your fond hopes, Mr. F. H.?" said
 Alice.

"Alice, my dear, come and sit by me,"
 said my friend, who, till now, had appear-
 ed, like the rest of us, decorously deaf to
 the child.

"No! I had rather sit here," replied Alice.
 And of course she remained.

Ques. "Do you enjoy a rainy day?"—
 [Word humbug.]

Ans. "The sun's round face so bright and fair,
 Is voted by our friend L.—
 'Impudent! bold! mere humbug this!
 But when he gives too warm a kiss
 'E'en for his ardent tale, I pray
 For a refreshing rainy day.'"

This response afforded no material for
 the quick-witted little Alice. Its allusions,
 however, to daily discussions of the differ-
 ent quality of sunshine in France and our
 country, between the writer and a charming
 little French friend, greatly amused us.

Ques. "What sort of a figure would
 Mortimer Delville make if he were to ap-
 pear here?" [Word hurly-burly.]

Ans. "Should Mortimer Delville
 Appear in our view,
 A grand hurly-burly
 Would quickly ensue."

"You are Mortimer Delville! you are
 Mortimer Delville!" cried Alice to her poor
 victim.

"No, no, Alice, he replied; 'all the ladies
 here voted there was no Mortimer Delville
 out of the book—nothing half so charming
 in this generation.'"

Ques. "Who is the belle of —?"
 [Word carter-potatoes.]

Ans. "Oh, don't speak of acres,
 Or carter-potatoes:
 Of beauty and great wealth,
 Have nothing to do with a belle."

This valley of ours
 Of Peking tea towers
 Assembles so much,
 That I dare not touch
 Where all ring so low.

Little Miss Alice seemed rather mystified
 by this happy answer, and was for once
 silent. Children do not readily take a play
 on words.

I pass over several clever responses that
 can only be understood by an explanation of
 local allusions. One only remained to be
 read, and that was known by some of the
 company to be the product of F. H. The
 question was dictated by Alice, and by this
 little Pickle's maneuvering had been given
 to him with a mischievous design to perplex
 him.

"The question was, 'Who is prettiest in
 this room?' [Word hood.]

Ans. "Oh murder! oh horror! oh dinner and
 blitza,
 I'm in the worst scrape that a man ever
 gets in."

Of so many bright eyes that are piercing
 me through,
 Oh, how choose the brightest! oh what
 shall I do!

I cannot decide—what mortal man could!
 I bow at the feet of fair woman-kind!"

E. M. looked conscious, half embarrassed,
 and half pleased, during the reading.
 I cannot tell how L. looked; she had drop-
 ped the stitches of her knitting, and gone
 to the end of the room to take them up.
 The generalization of the response did not
 quite meet the expectations of the com-
 pany; and it was followed by a momentary
 silence. That little spirit of unrest, Alice,
 was not quiet during the general sus-
 pension of animation. She had espied a
 pink string peeping from beneath F. H.'s
 vest. "What is this," she said, "that you
 have tucked in here, close to your heart?"
 And before he could take any measures to
 prevent, to silence, or evade her, she snatch-
 ed the string, pulled out, and exposed to
 general view (even to L.'s, for Alice's
 exclamation, she had involuntarily turned
 round). L.'s steel-bag, containing her hand-
 kerchief—the same on which she had wiped
 those tears the little elf had forced from her
 on the preceding day when she was sitting
 at the piano. "Whose property is this,"
 cried Alice, "and what shall she do to re-
 deem it?" Poor F. H. I believe he would
 at this moment have heartily joined in
 Charles Lamb's toast (proposed under the
 provocation of crying children). "To the
 memory of that much-wounded potentate,
 Herod the Tetrarch!" There was no deny-
 ing or evading the ownership of the bag,
 we all knew it; it was identified with L.
 always swinging on her pretty arm. She
 had asked for it twenty times that day—
 asked for it and searched for it in F. H.'s
 presence.

There are exigencies that will nerve the
 shyest man, provided he has, *au fond*, sense
 and feeling. F. H. put Alice aside, took
 the bag from her, walked to the end of the
 room, and gave it to L. His back was to
 us. He said something what L. alone
 knew; but there were words of infinite
 meaning; and that his were such, we infer-
 red from the smiles, the blush, and the tear,
 that appeared at once on L.'s face.

There was a general movement and a
 breaking up of the evening party. F. H.
 attended L. to her home. It was very near;
 but they did not take the most direct way,
 and this time the longest way round was
 not the shortest way home.

A Great Master.

Old Massachusetts has ever taken the
 lead in what is great, good, useful, and
 profitable. She established the first school
 in the United States, the first academy, the
 first college. She set up the first press,
 printed the first book and the first news-
 paper. She planted the first apple-tree,
 and caught the first whale. She coined the
 first money, and hoisted the first national
 flag. She made the first canal and the first
 railroad. She invented the first mousetrap,
 trap and washing-machine, and sent the
 first ship to discover islands and continents
 in the South Sea. She produced the first
 philosopher, and made the first pin. She
 fired the first gun in the Revolution, and
 gave "John Bull" his first beating, and put
 her hand first to the Declaration of Inde-
 pendence. She invented "Yankee Doodle,"
 and gave a name forever to the "Universal
 Yankee Nation." Truly, a great State is
 Massachusetts.—*Mem. (Tenn.) Herald.*

A New Novel and Poem by Bulwer.

"The Literary World" says—"It is now
 ascertained that the novel of 'The Caxtons,'
 published in Blackwood's Magazine, is from
 the pen of Bulwer. Messrs. Harper are
 in correspondence with the author, and will
 soon publish the book entire.

"The conclusion of the poem 'King
 Arthur,' from the same pen, will also be is-
 sued by the Harpers."

Let us not pull that upon ourselves all at
 once which Providence has ordered to be
 borne in parcels.

Some Knowledge of the World, Necessary
 to the Scholar.

Perhaps the early training usual for what
 are called the learned professions, is too
 exclusively studious. Might we not expect
 men to enter the world, as members of these
 professions, with minds more attuned to
 human sympathies, with hearts more open to
 the world-wide interests of their species,
 with ingenuities better sharpened to de-
 vise, and hands more ready to execute
 schemes of benevolence and philanthropy,
 were they early introduced, like the subject
 of this memoir, to such a mingled tide of hu-
 manity as flows and ebbs, or boils and eddies,
 through the exchanges of our great com-
 mercial cities. The poetic fire of imagina-
 tion need not be quenched; it may be fed
 with materials here which will make it af-
 terwards to shed a healthier glow on the
 pages of its inspiration; and the professional
 talent which is now so honorably active
 in securing independence for the personal
 fortune of its possessor, need not be cramped
 or blighted, but might here receive into its
 companionship, an expansive benevo-
 lence to which the habits of schools are not
 always favorable, and which, if but sancti-
 fied, would make its owner not more admi-
 red for his talent, than loved for his good-
 ness. Such training may in general be im-
 practicable, and it is believed could never
 be adopted as a rule for professional men;
 yet where, in God's providence, it has been
 realized, the best results have sometimes
 followed. This had been the case with Dr.
 Currie, whose life, in this respect, resem-
 bled that of his young relation; and cer-
 tainly it was so with Henry Duncan, whose
 early sojourn in Liverpool, uncongenial
 though mercantile pursuits were to his tem-
 per, he learned, afterwards, to regard as
 forming a most important era in his histo-
 ry moulding his character, and preparing
 him for a useful and honorable career.—
*Memoir of the Rev. Dr. Duncan, the
 Founder of Savings Banks.*

Students serve for delight, for ornament,
 and for privateness and retiring; for orna-
 ment, is for discourse; and for ability, is in
 the judgment and disposition of business; for
 expert men can execute, and perhaps judge
 of particulars one by one; but the general
 counsels, and the plots and marshaling of
 affairs come best from those that are learn-
 ed. To spend too much time in studies, is
 to sloth; to use them too much for ornament
 is affectation; to make judgment wholly by
 their rules, is the whim of a scholar; their
 perfect nature and are perfected by experi-
 ence: for natural abilities are like natural
 plants, that need pruning by study; and
 studies themselves do give forth directions
 in the judgment and disposition of business;
 for expert men can execute, and perhaps judge
 of particulars one by one; but the general
 counsels, and the plots and marshaling of
 affairs come best from those that are learn-
 ed. To spend too much time in studies, is
 to sloth; to use them too much for ornament